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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/478,974	01/06/2000	Lee Evan Nakamura	ST9-99-111	2447

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 03/04/2004

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/478,974

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA, LEE EVAN

Examiner

Maikhanh Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment B filed 02/03/2004 to the original application filed 01/06/2000.
2. Claims 1-24 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 9 and 17 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-18 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Shell et al.** (U.S. 6,339,780 – filed 05/1997) in view of **Barker et al.** (U.S. 6,141,659 – filed 05/1998).

As to independent claim 1, Shell discloses a method for displaying data on a display monitor under control of a computer (*Abstract*), comprising:

- means for displaying in a page a first portion of the field of data and a graphical element indicating that there is a second portion of the field of data within a display area (*the browser is configured to display a temporary graphic element 64 over content viewing area 56 during times*

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when the browser is loading content ... The temporary graphic element is preferably located in a corner of the content viewing area; col.4, lines 47-66/Abstract);

- means for enabling the page to selectively present the first and second portions of the field of data in response to user input (*rendering hypermedia content and of loading additional or alternative hypermedia content in response to a user's selection of hyperlinks; col.4, lines 4-8*).

Shell, however, does not explicitly teach "retrieving one or more records matching a search criteria, wherein each record includes at least one field of data; and when a field of data includes a separator indicating that there are multiple values for the field."

Barker teaches retrieving one or more records matching a search criteria, wherein each record includes at least one field of data (*search records for data matching entered search criteria; Fig.5A & col.7, lines 1-17*); and when a field of data includes a separator indicating that there are multiple values for the field (*A list of data fields associated with records 'document types' contained within each of the document; col.2, lines 21-36 & Fig. 4A*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Barker with Shell because it would have provided the capability for retrieving documents from multiple servers and effectively displaying the documents on the client computer having a limited display.

As to dependent claim 2, Shell discloses the presenting the first and second portions of the field of data comprises displaying the first and second portions in response to the user input (*col.4, lines 1-8*).

As to dependent claim 4, Shell discloses the page is an HTML page (*col. 6, lines 9-12 & lines 51-54*).

As to dependent claim 5, Shell teaches selectively present the first and second portion of the field for the record in response to user input (*col. 4, lines 1-8*).

Shell, however, does not explicitly disclose “receiving a user request including search criteria; and querying a database on the search criteria to access data records satisfying the search criteria, wherein each accessed data record includes the field of data, wherein there is a display area for each record, further comprising displaying in the display area for each record the at least first portion of the field of data from each accessed data record.

Barker discloses receiving a user request including search criteria; and querying a database on the search criteria to access data records satisfying the search criteria, wherein each accessed data record includes the field of data, wherein there is a display area for each record, further comprising displaying in the display area for each record the at least first portion of the field of data from each accessed data record (*search records for data matching entered search criteria; Figs. 4A & 5A/ col. 7, lines 1-17*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Barker with Shell because it would have provided the capability for retrieving and displaying documents from multiple servers.

As to dependent claim 6, Shell discloses displaying the first portion in the display area comprises displaying a first value in the data field, and wherein presenting the first and second portions in response to user input comprise displaying all the values form the data field (*col. 3, lines 44-63*).

As to dependent claim 7, Shell discloses displaying at least one additional field of data in each display area for each accessed record (*col. 4, lines 1-8*).

As to dependent claim 8, Shell discloses the first and second portions are presented in response to user input indicating movement of a graphical pointer over the displayed graphical element (*col. 1, lines 53-63*).

Independent claim 9 is directed to a system for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Dependent claims 10 & 12-16 include the same limitations as in claims 2 & 4-8, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Independent claim 17 is directed to an article of manufacture for implementing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Dependent claims 18 & 20-24 include the same limitations as in claims 2 & 4-8, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

4. Claims 3, 11 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Shell et al.** in view of **Barker et al.** as applied to claims 1, 9 and 17 above and further in view of **Applicant Admitted Prior Art (APA)**.

As to dependent claims 3, 11 and 19, the combination of Barker and Shell does not explicitly disclose "hover text".

APA discloses hover text (*use of hover text is display the entire content in a display area ...to display all the content; specification, page 1*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of APA with Shell as modified by Barker because it would have provided the enhanced capability for efficiently displaying data on a limited size of a displaying area.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicants' arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) rejection.

Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-0092. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H Feild can be reached on (703) 305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Maikhanh Nguyen
February 26, 2004


JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER